of support to terrorism, such as communications, launching pads, training camps, funding, etc.

Government is monitoring the situation very closely, and has made it clear to Pakistan that the premise on which the present dialogue process is based is the commitment of January 6, 2004 by Pakistan not to permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner. In the Joint Statement made during the visit of President Musharraf on April 18, 2005, both countries reaffirmed the commitments made in the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004.

Mutual co-operation between Russia, India and China

398. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia, India and China have shared a common interest in promoting growth and stability in the Asian region;

(b) whether he visited Russia in the month of June and India, Russia and China explored possibilities of mutual beneficial co-operation in energy, trade, economic and other fields;

(c) whether all three countries have represented some of the oldest civilisation in the world as well as large and economically dynamic countries; and

(d) if so, to what extent all the three countries have made joint efforts to achieve these objectives and whether all three countries have signed agreement in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Foreign Ministers of India, China and Russia met in Vladivostok on 2nd June 2005 and discussed prospects for economic cooperation in the trilateral format. The three Ministers acknowledged the considerable potential for mutually beneficial cooperation between Russia, India and China in such spheres as transport, agriculture, energy and high technologies. The Ministers stressed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and irrespective

of its origins and motivations posed one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. They agreed that it should be combated in a consistent, sustained and comprehensive manner without any double standards.

(d) The three countries do not have any specific trilateral agreement.

Attacks on Sikhs in U.K.

399. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the incidences of assaults in the UK following the explosions on 7th July, 2005 in tube rails and public bases at London, against the members of the Sikh community, in particular;

(b) if so, the details of the incidences obtained from the Government of UK till date; and

(c) the actions initiated, if any, for ensuring protection of persons and their religious places by the UK administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Following the 7th July 2005 terrorist bomb blasts in London, there have been reports of isolated incidents of minor attacks against Gurdwaras in South London, Kent and Leeds. No major damage has been reported.

(c) Government of India expressed deep shock at reports about attacks on the places of Sikh worship in the UK. It appealed to the British Government to take all necessary steps to apprehend the perpetrators of these attacks and protect the Sikh community. The British authorities have assured that they would work with community leaders to ensure safety and security of all communities.

Dilution in India's stand for Security Council Seat

400. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been a dilution of our stand for permanent membership in U.N. Security Council; and